

Message Text

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TAGS: PFOR SNAR VE US

SUBJECT: VENEZUELAN-U.S. NARCOTICS AGREEMENT

REF STATE 036680

1. DR. CESAR NARANJO OSTTY, ADVISOR TO THE VENEZUELAN COMMISSION AGAINST DRUG ABUSE, HAS GIVEN THE EMBASSY THE PROPOSED TEXT FOR A VENEZUELAN-U.S. NARCOTICS AGREEMENT RECENTLY APPROVED BY COMMISSION. PROPOSED TEXT ADHERES CLOSELY TO THE TEXT OF ARGENTINE-U.S. AGREEMENT OF 1972, WHICH EMBASSY PROVIDED NARANJO. EMBASSY'S INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF PROPOSED TEXT FOLLOWS.

2. QUOTE. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING. BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA, AS PARTIES TO THE SINGLE CONVENTION OF 1961 ON NARCOTIC DRUGS AND AS SIGNATORIES OF THE AMENDING PROTOCOL OF 1972; IN CONFORMITY WITH EXISTING INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS ON THE CONTROL OF DANGEROUS DRUGS AND THE UNLAWFUL TRAFFIC OF THE SAME, AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE. ONE: TO REAFFIRM THEIR DECISION TO COOPERATE WITH EACH OTHER, AND WITH OTHER NATIONS AS WELL, IN EVERY POSSIBLE WAY IN THE ELIMINATION OF THE UNLAWFUL USE AND THE ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN AND SMUGGLING OF NARCOTICS AND OTHER DANGEROUS DRUGS BY MEANS OF THE PREVENTION, PROHIBITION AND SUPPRESSION OF SAME,
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PROVIDING FOR THE SWIFT APPREHENSION AND EXTRADITION, WHERE

APPROPRIATE, OF PERSONS SO INVOLVED.

QUOTE. TWO: TO COOPERATE AS SIGNATORIES OF THE PRESENT MEMORANDUM IN ALL THE RELATED ASPECTS OF PREVENTION, INVESTIGATION AND REHABILITATION IN REGARD TO THE IMPROPER USE OF DRUGS AND IN THE SUPPRESSION RELATED TO ILLEGAL TRAFFICKING OF THE SAME.

QUOTE. THREE: IN CARRYING OUT THE TERMS OF THE TWO PRECEDING PARAGRAPHS, BOTH PARTIES WILL ESTABLISH A MIXED COMMISSION COMPOSED OF THE VENEZUELAN COMMISSION AGAINST DRUG ABUSE AND DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

QUOTE. FOUR: THE COMMISSION SHALL BE LOCATED IN THE CITY OF CARACAS, REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA AND SHALL MEET MONTHLY, OR AS OFTEN AS SHALL BE MUTUALLY AGREED.

QUOTE. FIVE: THE COOPERATION REFERRED TO IN PARAGRAPHS ONE AND TWO SHALL CONSIST OF:

-THE EXCHANGE OF ALL LEGALLY PERMISSIBLE INFORMATION ON THE SUBJECT;

- THE PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF SPECIFIC PROGRAMS UNDER VENEZUELAN LEADERSHIP IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COMMON OBJECTIVES ESTABLISHED IN PARAGRAPHS ONE AND TWO;

- THE GIVING OF SUPPORT TO THE ACTIVITIES OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS ON THIS PROGRAM, AND

- THE PARTICIPATION IN OTHER MULTILATERAL PROGRAMS FOR COMBATTING THE UNLAWFUL USE OF AND ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS;

SPECIFIC PROGRAMS OF COOPERATION MAY INVOLVE:

TRAINING, ADVICE, SPECIAL EQUIPMENT, AND OTHER MUTUALLY AGREED SUPPORT.

QUOTE. SIX: IN CARRYING OUT THE TERMS OF THIS MEMORANDUM, BOTH PARTIES SHALL PROVIDE ALL THE NECESSARY PERSONNEL AND SUPPORT NEEDED TO ACHIEVE SUCCESSFULLY THE OBJECTIVES SET FORTH IN PARAGRAPHS ONE AND TWO AND ANY AGREED PROGRAMS DEVELOPED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH FIVE OF THIS MEMORANDUM, SUBJECT TO THE AVAILABILITY OF RESOURCES OF BOTH GOVERNMENTS. HOWEVER, SHOULD ANY PARTICULAR PROGRAM APPROVED BY THE VENEZUELAN-UNITED STATES MIXED COMMISSION WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THIS MEMORANDUM BE INITIATED, BOTH PARTIES PLEDGE TO ENDEAVOR TO CARRY IT OUT SUBJECT TO THE AVAILABILITY OF RESOURCES PREVIOUSLY ASSIGNED FOR THE EXECUTION OF SAME.

QUOTE. SEVEN: THE SIGNATORIES OF THE PRESENT MEMORANDUM LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AGREE THAT THE FURTHER DEFINITION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COOPERATION REFERRED TO HEREIN SHALL BE DECIDED BY THE VENEZUELAN-UNITED STATES COMMISSION AND ITS SUBCOMMITTEES OR WORKING GROUPS ESTABLISHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH THREE. THESE DECISIONS SHALL BE CARRIED OUT EXCLUSIVELY BY THE COMPETENT AUTHORITIES OF THE SIGNATORY STATE IN WHOSE TERRITORY THEY APPLY.

QUOTE. EIGHT: THE MEMORANDUM SHALL COME INTO FORCE AS OF THE DATE OF ITS SIGNING.

QUOTE. DONE IN THE CITY OF CARACAS, CAPITAL OF THE REPUBLIC
OF VENEZUELA, ON THE DAY OF THE MONTH OF OF THE
YEAR 1975, IN TWO ORIGINALS IN THE ENGLISH AND SPANISH LANGUAGES,
BOTH TEXTS BEING EQUALLY AUTHENTIC.
FOR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: FOR THE REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA:

ENDQUOTE.

3. WE BELIEVE THE PROPOSED TEXT IS FINE AS FAR AS IT GOES.
HOWEVER, WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE ADDED TO PARAGRAPH SIX A PROVISION
STIPULATING THAT JOINT PROGRAMS APPROVED BY THE MIXED COMMISSION
WILL BE FINANCED BY THE TWO GOVERNMENTS ON A 50/50 COST SHARING
BASIS. WE BELIEVE A COST SHARING AGREEMENT WILL GIVE MUCH MORE
IMPETUS TO THE WORK OF THE MIXED COMMISSION AND THE OVERALL
NARCOTICS CONTROL PROGRAM IN VENEZUELA. OUR INFORMAL SOUNDINGS
HAVE REVEALED THAT THE GOV MAY BE RECEPTIVE TO SUCH AN AGREEMENT.

4. WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO INCLUDE PROVISION FOR A) PROPOSED
APPOINTMENT OF VENEZUELAN POLICE OFFICIALS TO SERVE IN A LIASON/
COORDINATION POST AT A DEA FIELD OFFICE SUCH AS NEW YORK OR MIAMI;
B) PROPOSED APPOINTMENT OF VENEZUELAN POLICE OFFICIALS TO SERVE
IN LIASON/COORDINATION POST AT THE DEA DISTRICT OFFICE IN
CARACAS. FURTHER, WE WOULD LIKE TO INCLUDE A REFERENCE IN THE
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING TO A PROPOSED FUTURE RE-NEGOTIATION
OF THE U.S./VENEZUELAN EXTRADITION TREATY TO PROVIDE FOR NARCOTICS-
RELATED CRIMES.

5. WE ARE FORWARDING THE SPANISH TEXT OF THE PROPOSED AGREEMENT
BY AIRGRAM. WE WOULD APPRECIATE THE DEPARTMENT'S COMMENTS AND/OR
PROPOSED LANGUAGE FOR THE CONCEPTS CITED IN PARAGRAPHS 3 AND 4
ABOVE BEFORE PROCEEDING FURTHER.

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